GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:494
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2000
LINKING OF RIVERS
Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme to link six major rivers as a part of the long term Ganga-Cauvery link project is to be undertaken by the Government in order to solve water problem in the country;

(b) if so, the total expenditure likely to be involved therein; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (c) The erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation(now Ministry of Water Resources) and Central Water Commission have formulated a National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development which envisages inter linkages between various Peninsular river including Cauvery and Himalayan rivers including Ganga for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins for optimum utilization of water resources. The Government of India has established National Water Development Agency (NWDA) as an Autonomous Society in July, 1982 to inter alia carry out the water balance and feasibility studies of National Perspective Plan as also to prepare cost estimates of total expenditure involved therein. Implementation of water transfer link proposal depends on availability of funds and how soon the detailed project reports are prepared after consensus is reached among the concerned States.